United States Department of the Interior
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
P.O. BOX 1716
CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO 88220

IN REPLY
REFER TO:

March 30, 1976

Mr. Clifford M. Gibbs
Superintendent, Underground Operations
The Anaconda Company
New Mexico Operations
Uranium Division
Box 638
Grants, New Mexico 87020

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

As we agreed in our recent telephone conversation, this letter will identify the following items of supplementary information that I indicated would be necessary for the preparation of the Environmental Analysis for your company's recently submitted Mining and Reclamation Plan for the P-15 and P-17 mines near Paguate, New Mexico. As you know, additional information may be requested at a later time.

1. Would both production shafts be sunk by conventional methods?

2. What would be the maximum production rate in TPD of each mine?

3. How many employees would each mine have at maximum production?

4. Where would the water wells that would supply water for the mine facilities be located? What formations would these wells possibly be completed in and what would be the estimated pumping rates (or the daily water requirements in GPD for each mine)?

5. Would one of the ventilation shafts at each mine be equipped with a hoist and torpedo-type cage to provide a second independent exist from each mine? What would be the location of such vent holes at each mine and what would the equipment consist of?

6. Would all of the ventilation shafts be equipped with surface fans, and if so, what would be their general specifications (motor HP)?

7. Would the settling ponds be lined with any type of impervious material? Would surface runoff from the mine yard, especially from the ore stockpiling area, be routed by a drainage system to the settling ponds?

8. What would be done with the particulate sediments in the mine water settling ponds at the end of mining operations?

9. What is the current mine water pumping rate for the P-10 Mine?

10. Where two or more ore bodies are stacked, what would be the usual sequence of development and stoping of each one?

11. What would be the normal sequence of events in the processing of the ore from stockpiling in the mine yard to the final refined product (brief description)?

12. How many feet of power lines would be required for each mine, and how much surface disturbance would be involved?

13. Would the mine yards, sewage lagoons, settling ponds, and the ventilation shaft areas be fenced throughout the lives of the mines?

14. Taking into account the area's evaporation rates, what rate of mine water inflow would each settling pond be capable of handling?

15. Are there any temporary or permanent residences in the mine areas, and if so, how many people reside in them?

In addition to the above information, please provide a stratigraphic section of each mine area on 8½" x 11" paper following the format indicated on the attached example.

Your cooperation and assistance is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Dale C. Jones
Mining Engineer

DCJ:cj

Attachment